

HARD TO FIND THE MAN.

Question of Successor to Mr. Bruce to Remain Open for Some Time.

COL. DUNN TO STAY AS CHAIRMAN.

The question of a successor to M. Linn Bruce as president of the Republican County Committee...

It is probable that none of the questions affecting the reorganization of the county committee...

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BRINGS JOY TO TAMMANY.

Thirtieth Deputy Tax Commissioner's Shipments Out of Competitive Class.

SMOKE HID FIRE VICTIM.

Widow Lay Feet from Man Bent on Rescue.

Mrs. Laura A. Upton, sixty years old, a wealthy widow, living at No. 124 West One-hundred-and-thirty-first-st., was fatally burned yesterday, dying in Harlem Hospital in the evening.

Mrs. Upton owned the five-story flat-house in which she lived, and had considerable property in the neighborhood. It had been her habit to make repairs about the flat.

Mrs. Upton went to a flat on the fourth floor in the morning to repair a gas bracket. Miss Gilman went to the cellar to turn off the gas.

After waiting some moments Mrs. Upton turned on the gas and lighted a match to see if the gas had been turned off. The gas was still turned on.

Ignited by the match, the flame which leaped from the jet set fire to her hair.

Mrs. Upton ran to a front window, and, leaning out, shouted "Fire!" As her dress caught fire, she ran back through the flat, as if to go downstairs, but fell exhausted in the hallway.

Mrs. George A. Harker, who lives on the fourth floor in the adjoining flat, heard Mrs. Upton's screams, and her husband ran over the roof to ascertain the cause.

Harker found the flat filled with smoke, and the wainscoting burning in two small places, but, owing to the smoke, did not see Mrs. Upton lying on the floor.

He and his wife finished several men running up the stairs, shouting: "Where's the woman?"

Mrs. Upton was found on the floor, unconscious, on a few feet from where the wainscoting had been burning.

Her clothes were practically completely burned from her body, and her hair was entirely consumed.

GOT AWAY WITH \$6,000.

Thieves Discarded Checks and Valuable Letters When They Got Stocks and Bonds.

Baltimore, Dec. 4.—Stewart Hill, messenger for the Merchants' National Bank, went into the registry division of the postoffice in this city to-day and laid his pouch, containing \$7,000 in bonds, coupons and stock, besides valuable letters and some checks, on a table, while he registered a letter.

While his back was turned two men entered, one of whom grabbed the pouch and made off, followed by his companion. The messenger gave the alarm, but both of the men escaped.

Late to-night the satchel was found in a hallway three blocks from the postoffice. An occupant of the building said that he had seen it there in the day, but paid no attention to it.

A score of letters and checks, aggregating in value \$9,000, were in the satchel, but nine registered letters, believed to contain \$6,320 in negotiable stocks, bonds and currency, were missing.

The police arrested John B. King, alias David G. Bliss, alias Dr. Bliss, in the afternoon on the charge of being a suspicious character.

King was partly identified to-night as one of the men in the postoffice when Jill lost his satchel. King's photograph is said to be in the Rogues' Gallery of many large cities, and he has served the police say, several terms for similar crimes.

No trace of the missing registered letters has been found. They were mailed at New-York, Philadelphia and Birmingham, Ala., and other points in the South. Postoffice inspectors are cooperating with the police in an endeavor to find the thieves.

CENSURED ONLY FOR CERTIFYING TO A COAL VOUCHER—GIVEN ANOTHER CHARGE.

Albany, Dec. 4.—Adjutant General Henry made public to-night a general order including the findings of the court of inquiry which investigated charges made against Captain Charles B. Lentz of the 26th Separate Company, N. G. N. Y.

Captain Lentz was accused of converting to his own use certain articles in the company armory at Tonawanda on the charge of converting State property to his private use and of receiving coal at State expense, but censured him for certifying the untruthful coal voucher.

The court expresses the belief that Captain Lentz has had a severe lesson, and that he should have an opportunity to show findings and dissolves the court.

GRAND JURY UPHOLDS VAN IDERSTINE

Sustains Him in Assertion That Sugar Company Uses Unmetered Water.

In its presentment handed in yesterday the November grand jury, in Kings County, sustains Deputy Water Commissioner Van Iderstine in his assertion that in the last four or five years the American Sugar Refining Company has been receiving through unmetered pipes about 1,800,000 gallons of water a day.

The grand jury recommends that the Law Department at once proceed to bring a civil action against the company to recover the value of the water, estimated at \$25,000, or such portion of it as is not covered by the statute of limitations.

The presentment included a number of maps and data that had been furnished by the Water Department, and which the grand jury found to be correct on examination.

It is said that there is no law under which a person may be indicted for diverting water from the mains of a municipality without paying for the same.

OFFERS \$700,000 FOR ACADEMY SITE.

In behalf of certain persons in Manhattan, whose names are not disclosed, Frederick M. Smith, of the Temple Bar Building, Brooklyn, has offered \$700,000 for the site of the Brooklyn Academy of Music, which was destroyed by fire last Monday.

KILLED BY ELEVATOR.

Cooper Under It When Cable Breaks—Six Others Injured.

GENERAL MANAGER ARRESTED.

By the breaking of the cable of an elevator in the basement of the building occupied by Luytens Brothers, wine merchants, under the Brooklyn Bridge arch between William and Rose sts., yesterday, one man was killed and six were injured.

THE DEAD. LIST, Joseph, thirty years old, cooper, living in One-hundred-and-fifteen-st., near Fifth-avenue.

THE INJURED. BETZ, Henry, thirty-nine years old, of No. 210 East Eleventh-st., sprained back.

DARROCK, Edward, twenty-five years old, of No. 323 Adams-st., Hoboken; sprained back.

GERBER, Christopher, forty years old, of No. 553 Classon-ave., Brooklyn; shock.

KIEBES, Valentine, thirty-five years old, of No. 572 East One-hundred-and-fifty-third-st.; left leg broken.

SHOCK, Joseph, twenty-four years old, of No. 116 Adelphi-st., Brooklyn; scalp wound.

WEISSMAN, Adolph, twenty-eight years old, of No. 157 Broadway; sprained back.

All save Gerken, who was taken home, were removed to the Hudson-st. hospital. The elevator, a small one, runs from the sub-cellar to the ground floor, and is used for hoisting cases.

All the men with the exception of List were going up in the elevator to get their luncheon when the accident occurred. Although the company has a printed sign in the sub-cellar forbidding walking under the elevator when it is going up, List was doing so, and just as he reached a point in the sub-cellar directly under the elevator the cable broke and the car with the six men and a cask of wine fell on him.

It was not until ten minutes afterward that any of the men knew he had been crushed. Then one happened to see his leg sticking out from underneath the car.

Patrolman O'Neil arrested Eugene J. Cantin, the general manager of the firm, who lives at No. 80 Hanson Place, Brooklyn. Coroner Schuler held him pending an inquest. He said the elevator was inspected regularly by the Fidelity and Casualty Company, but he could not tell when the last inspection took place.

The board of directors of the company had given what had apparently been wearing down for a long time.

BURNED BY THIRD RAIL FLASH.

Tools Used by Elevated Road Employees Formed Circuit—Passengers Frightened.

A flash of electricity and flame from the third rail of the elevated railroad at Third and Wendover aves., yesterday, severely burned William Herman, of No. 221 Jackson-ave., and Emil Batsch, of No. 2,666 Second-ave., about the face and hands. They were attended by a Fordham Hospital ambulance surgeon and sent to their homes.

Something happened to the "shoe" of the first car of a train and Herman and Batsch tried to repair it. As they worked, the tools had formed a circuit between the rail and the "shoe," causing a sudden blinding flash of light and electricity, which killed the passengers in the train and burned the men.

The "shoe" was repaired and only a short delay on the road was caused.

HEN BOWDS FAST EXPRESS TRAIN.

In Confusion Alights on Platform and Rides to Next Station.

East Orange, N. J., Dec. 4 (Special).—A hen had a free ride on an express train on the Lackawanna Railroad this morning, boarding it while it was running at the rate of about forty miles an hour, and alighting at the next stop.

The train was moving west, and as it passed through East Orange the hen, after the manner of her kind, became confused, hesitated and then ran directly for the train, flying on to the platform between the last two cars. It alighted on the railing, its feathers very much ruffled and its quantity greatly upset.

The train sped on until Brick Church was reached. There the hen hopped off and strutted, with much cackling and ruffling of feathers, down Evergreen Place, looking from side to side.

DOG ADOPTS MOTHERLESS KITTENS.

Mysteriously Appears When Cat Is Killed in Jersey City.

When James Johnson, of No. 115 Jefferson-st., Jersey City, went to work yesterday he found his pet cat, Tabby, lying dead in the street. She had been run over by a milk wagon.

He was greatly concerned for the fate of six three-day-old kittens Tabby had left in the woodshed. At noon, when he returned to dinner, he told his wife she had better take the kittens into the house and feed them with a spoon, but when she went to the shed she was surprised to find the kittens already provided with a foster mother, a stray mongrel dog.

The strange part of the affair is that Mr. Johnson was not able to learn where the dog came from, nor could he learn the fate of the puppies that she had apparently lost or abandoned. Mr. Johnson questioned all the boys living in the neighborhood, but none of them had ever seen the dog before.

EXECUTOR FOR DEAF MUTE ACCUSED.

Complaint Filed in Court Against G. M. Carey, of Stratford, Conn.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.) Bridgeport, Conn., Dec. 4.—The grievance committee of the Fairfield County Bar Association has filed with the Superior Court a complaint against George M. Carey, attorney, of Stratford, who had offices in this city. The complaint alleges two cases of embezzlement, forgery and forgery. The charges are based on alleged acts in connection with his office as executor and trustee under the will of John W. Ford, of Milford, a deaf mute, and as conservator over Mrs. Ford, widow of the testator, and also a deaf mute.

In the Probate Court at Milford to-day a hearing was held on an application for Carey to appear as executor of the will of John W. Ford, a deaf mute, and as conservator over Mrs. Ford, widow of the testator, and also a deaf mute.

TO CONTINUE GAS FIGHT.

Board of Estimate Approves Report Sustaining Colonel Monroe.

TO STOP LAW'S DELAY.

Commissioner Listens to Tentative Measures—Justice Scott Objects.

The report of a committee consisting of Mayor Low, Controller Grout and President Forbes was presented yesterday at the meeting of the Board of Estimate, sustaining the decision of Colonel Monroe that he should make no new contracts with the Consolidated Gas Company, because of the high rates charged by it.

The report of the committee continuing to hold up the gas bills was approved by the board, and further consideration of the subject was referred to the Controller.

Harrison E. Gawtry, president of the Consolidated Gas Company, last night declined to comment on the action of the Board of Estimate.

"Their proceedings are news to me," said he. "I had not heard what they had done until now. As to the future action of the company, I cannot make any statement."

It was learned from authoritative sources that there is little probability of any immediate litigation on the part of the company. With the approaching change of administration, involving a Tammany Commissioner of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, in Commissioner Robert Grier Monroe's place, the company believes that its bills will meet with more favor.

Officials of the gas company regard Commissioner Monroe's attitude as influenced by his approval of a municipal lighting plant, which they declare to be impracticable.

The board tabled the plan for a park on the site of the "Lung Block" in Chery-st., Controller Grout saying that Borough President-elect Ahearn was opposed to the plan, and that if the present board approved it, the Tammany administration might refuse to approve the condemnation proceedings to acquire the property.

Mr. Cantor succeeded in getting the board to approve a recommendation for the extension of Riverside Drive from One-hundred-and-fifty-third-st. to One-hundred-and-fifty-fifth-st.

The board also agreed to the proposed overhead crossing at Fordham Heights and the new drawbridge at Kingsbridge, including a new drawbridge.

David Welsh, counsel for owners of property within the city to receive \$100,000 and the opening of the ground now known as the American League Baseball Park.

Mr. Welsh to let the subject go over to the Tammany administration. Mr. Welsh expressed confidence that the plan would go through then.

GAS REVEALS HER DEATH.

Woman Artist Found Beside Filled Bath tub—Heater Leaked.

Miss Virginia L. Thornton, artist, twenty-eight years old, who lived in a nicely furnished suite of rooms in an apartment house at No. 22 East Sixteenth-st., was found dead in the bathroom of her apartment shortly before midnight by Ernest Philblatt, the janitor.

Several of the other tenants of the house complained to Philblatt of a smell of gas, and he traced it to Miss Thornton's rooms. He received no response to his knock and forced the door, finding the woman on the floor of the bathroom, dressed only in an undergarment. The gas which had alarmed the others had escaped from a heater, one end of which was burning. The bathtub, beside which the body was lying, was full of water.

P. R. R.'S OPTION ON BIG TRACT.

Rumor That 822 Acres of Reclaimed Land Is Involved.

A report was printed yesterday that the Pennsylvania Railroad Company has an option to buy about 822 acres of reclaimed land in Kearny township, west of the Hackensack River. The tract is owned by the Hackensack Meadow Company. The price agreed upon is said to be \$1,000 an acre.

This report could not be confirmed last night.

CLEVELAND WOMAN OUT OF BELLEVUE.

Sister Gets Release of Patient Who Gave Name of Mrs. E. K. Stallo as Friend.

Miss Julia Ricks, a young woman who was taken to the psychopathic ward at Bellevue Hospital on Sunday night from the Hotel Navarre, suffering from hysteria, was discharged yesterday on the request of her sister, Miss Alma Ricks, of Cleveland, who came on here when she heard of her sister's difficulty, and who signed a contract assuming responsibility for her.

After Miss Ricks had left the ward she made a disturbance in the hospital reception room, and the hospital physician, who examined her when she was brought to the hospital, and who diagnosed her case as hysteria, was responsible for the "notoriety" which had been given her.

Dr. Steinhart had nothing whatever to do with the reports of the case, but Miss Ricks insisted that he inspired the stories about her. It is none of his business, she said, "whether I'm worth \$1 or a million." When a record of her case was taken upon her entrance to the hospital she gave as her best friend Mrs. E. K. Stallo, a divorced wife of Dan Ricks, who she said she is the niece of a well known Cleveland family.

MR. VIRTUE CHARGED WITH BIGAMY.

New-York Man Arrested in Jersey City—Willing to Return Here.

William Virtue, of No. 111 King-st., Manhattan, was arrested in Jersey City yesterday on a warrant issued in Manhattan charging him with bigamy. He said he was willing to go to New-York at once, but was held for thirty days, the New-York judge not allowing an accused person to waive extradition proceedings.

SEEKS DIVORCE; CHARGES BIGAMY.

Baldwin's Long Island, Dec. 4.—John S. Pettit, an aged farmer of this place, has applied through his counsel, John Lyon, of Rockville Centre, to have his marriage annulled. The wedding took place on December 13 last. The bride said she was Mrs. Clara Davy, of Wappinger's Falls, N. Y. Pettit first secured her services as housekeeper, and then married her. She was charged with bigamy when his wife disappeared, and since then, he says, he has learned that when she became his bride she had a husband living.

SAILORS KILLED ON TOBAGO ISLAND.

Seattle, Dec. 4.—Jacob Hoelstad, captain of the American ship Benjamin Sewall, which was wrecked in Formosa waters in a typhoon on October 6, has arrived here on the Japanese steamer Iyo Maru. Captain Hoelstad says the Sewall was abandoned after laboring in a terrific storm for forty-eight hours, during which she sprang a leak. The crew of twenty took to two lifeboats, one of which landed on Tobago Island, where eight of the number, it is believed, were murdered by the natives.

INVESTIGATING MURDER OF THE FREHRS.

Buffalo, Dec. 4.—Circumstances strong enough to warrant the charge of murder against one in connection with the murder of Mr. and Mrs. Frehr and the hiding of their bodies in the ground are rumored to be under the subject. The authorities refuse to discuss the subject. The charge is against Charles Borer, the old man who says that he forged the name of Frehr to deeds of property not been changed. Mrs. Lindholm is still detained as a witness.

SUES FOR 8-INCH STRIP OF LAND.

The possession of a strip of land only 8 inches wide and 8 1/2 feet long is the cause of a litigation filed yesterday by Benjamin F. Carpenter against the estate of William W. W. Carpenter, south of Grand-st., in Elizabeth-st., and is the subject of the latest tract ever the subject of litigation.

BROWN LEADS WILLIAMS AT CHESS.

Providence, R. I., Dec. 4.—Brown defeated Williams in his first day's play in the chess tournament between the two colleges to-day.

YOU CAN INSURE.

Special advertisements getting proper classifications and good positions in The Sunday Tribune by sending in your copy early.

WELL OF CHILD'S ABUSE.

Mrs. Ray Betrays No Feeling at Examination in Newark.

COMMITTED WITHOUT BAIL.

Mrs. Catherine Flynn Ray, twenty-three years old, of No. 10 McWhorter-st., Newark, who is accused of brutally treating and of causing the death of her husband's niece, Mary C. Conning, three years old, was arraigned before Justice Schalk at Newark yesterday afternoon. She was committed to the present number of Supreme Court justices. He suggested that the trial court be relieved of all the preliminary work that at present occupies much time; that no continuations or adjournments for the convenience of counsel be allowed; that appeals be restricted and that technicalities be discarded; that frivolous and sham defenses be speedily handled with a view to getting immediately to the evidence submitted. In regard to appeals, Justice Freeman stated that they might be regarded without the use of briefs. He characterized the practice of postponing the day of judgment by delays and the upstating of verdicts by exceptions as reprehensible.

"We need the co-operation of the justices to make a reform a success," said he, "and the legislature should be persuaded to strengthen the courts and to force a speedy termination of trials. The tendency in New-York has been to cause a feeling of less respect for the courts and a feeling of timidity on the part of the judges themselves."

J. Noble Hayes laid stress on the statement that on the jury trials calendar there were practically 10,000 untried cases and on the special trials calendar 3,600 cases. The first, he asserted, had a capacity of 2,669 cases a year and the latter 611 cases.

The remedies proposed were then read to the commission. They include the following: The approval of the constitutional amendment to increase the number of Supreme Court justices. A recommendation that the creation of a Superior Court be deferred until a time when, as needed, on a two-thirds vote of the legislature. A recommendation that the salary of the Supreme Court be increased from \$10,000 to \$12,000. A recommendation that the salary of the judges be increased from \$10,000 to \$12,000. A recommendation that the salary of the judges be increased from \$10,000 to \$12,000.

Several witnesses were not called, among them Mrs. Schiller, employed as a servant in the house of the defendant, who testified that she was a witness to the child's death. It is said she is the most important witness in the case. County Physician McKim, who examined the child, testified that her body was a mass of bruises. There were more than one hundred of them. There were twenty-six on the breast and twenty-four on the back. The arms and legs were full of bruises and cuts. Death had been caused by a blow on the head, which was in two places. Any one of the blows over the liver, on the breast or back could have caused the child's death.

Nelle Flynn, seventeen years old, a sister of Mrs. Ray, who escaped from the City Home several weeks ago, and who entered through the back door of the house, testified that she saw the child in the room where there was no fire. The witness said she was in the room when the child was found dead. Mrs. Ray was committed to jail without bail. An effort will be made by her counsel for her release on bonds.

SAYS REMEDY IS IN ENFORCING LAW.

Gen. Greene Says Published Number of Deaths Caused by Traffic Is Incorrect.

Police Commissioner Greengard yesterday gave out a list of the deaths in the city during the year 1902 and said that the list published estimating the number at 432 people was incorrect. From the reports of the Health Department the Commissioner had found that only 365 people had been killed. Of these, 172 had been killed by surface cars. Trucks and automobiles for 2, bicycles for 2 and runaway horses for 1.

He also gave out a list of the number of people arrested for exceeding the speed laws, with all classes of vehicles, from May 1 to November 1. There were 240 arrests of this sort. One hundred and two were discharged and 138 were held. Of the held, 100 were fined, 10 were committed to the House of Correction, 10 were freed on suspended sentences and 27 cases are still pending. The fines from the city magistrates aggregated \$175, as \$10 is the maximum fine allowed. The Special Sessions Justices, who can fine up to \$50, aggregated \$1,336 in their fines, making a total of \$1,511.

"I do not deduce from the figures," said the Commissioner, "the necessity of a more rigid enforcement of the speed laws, and that more adequate punishment should be given. If this were done there would be many fewer fatalities."

The Commissioner said he had thought the granting of licenses for all classes of vehicles should be converted to a license system, instead of the present system of a license for the driver and a license for the vehicle. He thought that a commissioner of street traffic would be unwieldy. An inspector in place should be placed in charge of street traffic, in his opinion.

DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL TO WED.

William H. Wood, of Albany, to Marry Law Reporter Whom He Met in Court.

The engagement was announced yesterday of Miss Harriette Millman Johnson, a graduate of the woman's law class, New-York University, to Deputy Attorney General William H. Wood, of Albany. Miss Johnson has been a law reporter, with offices at No. 120 Broadway. Her first meeting with Mr. Wood occurred in court, when he was arguing a case and she was reporting it.

Miss Johnson, who is twenty years old, has been engaged to the Deputy Attorney General for more than a year, although the engagement was kept secret until a day or two ago, when the announcement was precipitated by persistent inquiries as to the reason for her surrendering her Broadway office.

Miss Johnson is a daughter of Rufus Willard Johnson and Mary Matthews, and is a descendant of the Willard family. Her father, who is now still at Seneca Lake, where Sir William lived. The marriage will take place at Grace Church on December 23. Dr. Huntington is to officiate.

BIG FIRE WORRIED SCHENECTADY.

No Water Except That Drawn from the Canal with Two Engines.

Schenectady, N. Y., Dec. 4.—The freight house and sheds of the New-York Central Railroad Company in this city were burned this morning, with a great quantity of freight. The loss is roughly estimated at \$200,000. The only means the Fire Department had of fighting the fire was with water drawn from the Erie Canal with two fire engines.

The city has been without a drop of water since 9 o'clock yesterday morning, when an alarm of a breakdown at the pumping station, which disabled both pumps and shut off the city's supply.

The fire was first seen at 10:30 o'clock, and started in a pile of waste near a stove in the freight shed. Within fifteen minutes the flames had spread to the shed, which was a two-story building. The flames were so intense that the sheds were being pulled up high with merchandise, as well as the platforms outside. Fifty cars were pulled away from the freight house.

The Fire Department responded promptly, and simply devoted its efforts to saving adjoining buildings. The flames swept across John-st., and threatened a long line of tenement houses and the large building of the Erie Canal. After two hours' hard fighting the flames had burned out sufficiently to allow the firemen to turn the two streams of water on the fire, and it was soon under control.

On August 9 the city had a similar experience. The water was turned off at the same place at the pumping station, and several houses in Eulstat-st. were destroyed.

ROCHESTER ALUMNI MEET MONDAY.

The annual dinner of the New-York Alumni Association of the University of Rochester will be held Monday evening at the Hotel Manhattan, at 6:45 p. m. President Rush Rhees, of the University of Rochester, and a number of alumni will speak.

TWO BROTHERS KILLED BY TRAIN.

Montclair, Dec. 4.—Lombardo DeCicca, nineteen years old, and his brother, Eric, also nineteen years old, were struck